THE NEW ORLEANS BEE.

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NEW ORLEANS:
THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 7, 1865.

☞ As this office will be closed to-day, "Thanksgiving Day," the BEE will not appear to-morrow morning.

The advertisements of auction sales for Friday are inserted in this morning's edition.

On our second page will be found sheriff's and auction sales, bank notices and various miscellaneous advertisements.

☞ Copies of the BEE can always be found at Mr. Auguste Simon's Bookstore, No. 85 Bienville street, between Union and Perdido.

ANNIVERSARY.—The Orleans Literary and Debating Society will celebrate its second anniversary on Friday evening in the basement of Trinity Church. We thank the proper committee for a polite invitation to attend this interesting occasion.

FIREMEN'S BALL.—The first grand firemen's ball of the season is to come off at Odd Fellows' Hall on Saturday evening, the 9th. Its managers have our thanks for complimentary favors.

CONCERT TO-NIGHT.—We would again remind our musical community of the grand vocal and instrumental concert this evening at Odd Fellows' Hall, by the young ladies of Trinity Church, and under the able direction of Mr. Theo. Von La Hache. We are assured that several amateurs of great brilliancy will enrich the performance. The proceeds are to accure to the benefit of the Rev. Dr Southwick, of Trinity Church, a pastor as estimable as eloquent, and peculiarly worthy of this testimony.

Affairs at Washington.—The President's Message.

The news from Washington does not seem calculated, at first view, to throw a flood of sunshine along the path lying before the Southern States. In the opinion of some, perhaps, it has cast additional gloom over a way where there was already scant enough light either to illuminate or to cheer.

The election of Mr. Colfax as Speaker of the House by an almost unanimous vote, with a prejudgment against the South hot upon his lips, can not easily be construed otherwise than as a signal endorsement of the programme of exinition set forth by him in his late speech. The avowal came in its sequence to the rejection by the Clerk of Southern Representatives—a rejection so rigorous as to banish from the National Legislature Tennessee, a State of which the President is a citizen, and from which, if she be not in the Union, it must be unconstitutional to take a President.

Another fact that has a look of sinister import was the leading of by Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, in the process of inquiring into the claims of Southern Representatives to seats. Mr. Stevens has the same direction for everything like liberal views and a magnanimous course towards the South as Mr. Sumner has. If the latter shall become leader in the Senate, and the former shall become leader in the House, the South should reduce her expectations from this Congress to the lowest point at once if she would avoid bitter disappointment. As it is, there is but too much reason to believe that it will be the disposition of this body, at least at the present session, not to investigate the position of the South with the view to its early restoration to political equality, but to punish the Southern people for political offences with the heaviest penalties that can be devised.

The message of President Johnson does not commit to Congress any conditions of Southern restoration additional to those which he had previously indicated. He insists especially on the ratification of the Constitutional amendment as an indispensable guarantee to be required from Southern States before readmission to Congress. On the other hand, he distinctly dissents from those who would make negro suffrage a similar condition. Virtually, however, the whole question of Southern re-entrance into Congress is relegated to the decision of that body. The President's "plan" stops at the Congressional door, beyond which there is cause to apprehend that the Sumner-Stevens plan will be in the ascendant.

Though our telegraphic copy of the message is very imperfect, we are able to perceive that the document has been written in a terse and lucid style after having been elaborately conceived. The larger with which the President refers to the Constitution and to the early days of the Republic, is a refreshing proof that he does not despair of perpetuating the Union without impairing Constitutional guarantees of liberty and justice.

In regard to financial policy and to general legislation the suggestions of the President are mostly admirable. His abhorrence of monopolies and of class legislation, and his total blindness to the "blessing" which J. Cook and the stock-gambling fraternity have seen in the National debt, will not meet with warmer sympathy anywhere than in the South.

In the allusions made in the message to foreign affairs we fail to see the belligerent tone discovered, according to the telegraph, by certain optics elsewhere. Instead of proposing a raid into Mexico to protect the Republic from possible harm from monarchical neighborhood in that quarter, the President conceives as the "best security" for the greatest against any such danger the "establishment of harmony, and the strength that comes from harmony," within the proper boundaries of the United States.

ARRIVAL OF STEAMSHIP MISSISSIPPI.—The steamship Mississippi, Capt. Geo. Sumner, from New York 27th ult., arrived at this port yesterday afternoon.

Left New York Monday, Nov. 27th, at 10 o'clock A. M.; Nov. 28th, 3 P. M., saw a large ship ashore, off Oregon Inlet, with all sails set. December 1st, 12 M., off Cape Carnaval, passed a small three-masted steamer bound South. Dec. 2d, 9 A. M., lat. 24-45, long. 83 30 West, passed schooner O. S. Grover, bounded for Belize; Dec. 5th, 7.30 P. M., arrived of Southwest Pass and arrived at New Orleans at 2 P. M., Dec. 6th.

The following is a list of her passengers:

Miss A Pfaun, wife, child and servant; Mrs John B Bonnet; Miss A Bonnet; Mrs Hodge; Miss Rose Hodge; Miss Mary Hodge; Surgeon W V Hoff; Miss E F Smith; Mrs H Bonnet; Miss Jane Bonnet; Miss E Jones; F Bonnet; M Morvan; Theo Pelton; William Fraser; Miss D Bonnet and 2 children; Miss Libby Whitney; C Bonnet; Jos Bonnet; W C Howe; Capt T Ryan; J S Gibbs; J Bonnet, J Pennington, wife and child; J Bowden and child; Lieut Gerlin; R Coolsaets; F J Daly; C E Cutler; Chas F Bonnet; J Robinet.

BY TELEGRAPH

[To the New Orleans Bee.]

Southwest Pass, Dec. 6—The tug Holly Hoot arrived down and towed to sea the ship Geneva. The Anneau is outside. Wind Southeast—light. One ash scow outside coming in.

Vicksburg, Dec. 6—The steamer Olive Branch passed up at 7 A. M. The Lady Gay passed up at 9 P. M.

[The wires are interrupted between Meridian and Louisville to-night.]

CITY INTELLIGENCE

First District Court—Judge Abell.—Jos. Thatcher, colored, was found guilty of burglary on the 25th of October last, value of goods stolen, worth $500, and valued the same for sale.

Colored David Tony and Benj. Lister were found guilty of larceny, having carried off 10 bags of cotton, worth $50, from Woods Gibson Patton on the 31st of October.

Colored Constable Jones was found guilty of the charge of assault and battery on the person of Martin Hughes Mitchell on the 18th of October last, and was fined $50 and costs.

Jurisdiction—Address S Morse, Esq., Attorney-General of the State, was introduced to the Court by R. L. Lewis, Esq., on behalf of the bar of this city, and delivered an address which will be found in full on the first page.

BY TELEGRAPH.

(To the New Orleans Bee.)

The President's Message.

[CONSERVATIVE AND CONSOLIDATED.]

Our Government springs from, and was made for the people, not the people for the Government; to them it owes allegiance; from them it must derive its powers, measures and wisdom; but while the Government in thus bound to defer to the people, from whom it derives its existence, it should, from the very consideration of its origin, be strong in its power of existence.

The establishment of equalities and monopolies, and class legislation, are contrary to the genius of free government and ought not to be allowed. Here there is no room for favored classes and castes. The principle of our Government is that of equal laws and freedom of industry. Wherever monopoly obtains a foothold, it is sure to be a source of danger, discord and trouble. We shall but fulfill our duties as legislators, by according equal and impartial justice to all men; special privileges to none. The Government is subordinate to the people, but as the agent and representative of the people, it must be held superior to monopolies, which, in themselves, ought never to be granted, and which, whose litary exist, must be subordinate and yield to the Government. The Constitution confers on Congress the right to regulate commerce among the several States. It is of the first necessity for the maintenance of the Union that commerce should be free and unobstructed. No States can be justified in any device to tax the transit of travel and commerce between States. The position of many States is such that if they were allowed to take advantage of it for purposes of revenue, the commerce between the States might be injuriously burdened, or even virtually prohibited. It is best, while the country is still young, and while the tendency to dangerous monopolies of this kind is still feeble, to vest the power of Congress so as to prevent any selfish impediment to the free circulation of men and merchandize. A tax on travellers and merchandize in their transit constitutes one of the worst forms of monopoly. The evil is increased, if coupled with a denial of the choice of route. When the vast extent of our country is considered, it is plain that every obstacle to the free circulation of commerce between the States ought to be sternly guarded against by appropriate legislation, within the limits of the Constitution.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior contains explanations of the condition of the public lands, the transactions of the Patent Office and the Pension Bureau, the management of our Indian affairs and the progress made in the construction of the Pacific Railroad, and furnishes information in reference to matters of local interest in the District of Columbia. It also presents evidence of the successful operation of the Homestead Act, under the provisions of which 1,160,533 acres of the public lands have been entered during the fiscal year—more than a quarter of the whole number of acres sold or otherwise disposed of during that period. It is estimated that the receipts derived from the same are sufficient to defray the expenses incident to the survey and disposal of the lands entered under this act, and that payments in cash, to the extent of from forty to fifty per cent. will be made by settlers, who may thus, at any time, acquire title before the expiration of the period at which it would otherwise vest. The homestead policy was established only after a long and earnest resistance. Experience proves that the lands, in the hands of industrious settlers, whose labor creates wealth, and constitutes the public resources, are worth more to the United States, than if they had been reserved as a solitude for future purchasers. The immediate events of the last four years, and the sublime deeds by the valiant men of our army and navy have swelled the records of the Pension Bureau to an unprecedented extent. On the 30th of June last, the total number of pensioners was 85,986, requiring for their annual pay, exclusive of expenses, the sum of $5,032,445. The number of applications then have been entered since that day will require a large increase of this amount for the next fiscal year. The means for the payment of the stipends due under existing laws to our disabled soldiers and sailors, and to the families of such as have perished in the service of the country, will be found to be cheerfully and promptly granted. A grateful people will not hesitate to maintain any measure having for their object the relief of soldiers mutilated, and families made fatherless, in their efforts to preserve our National existence.

The report of the Postmaster General presents an encouraging exhibition of the operations of the Post Office during the year. The revenues of the past year from the loyal States alone exceed the maximum annual receipts from all the States previous to the rebellion by the sum of $6,039,091, and the annual average increase of revenue during the last four years compared with the seven of the four years immediately preceding the rebellion, was $3,533,815. The revenues of the last fiscal year amounted to $14,556,158 and the expenditures to $13 694,038, leaving a surplus of receipts over all expenditures of $861,120. Progress has been made in restoring the postal service in the Southern States. The views presented by the Post-master General against the policy of granting subsidies to ocean mail steamship lines upon established routes, and in favor of continuing the present system, which limits the compensation to postage earning, are recommended to the careful consideration of Congress.

It appears, from the report of the Secretary of the Navy, that while at the commencement of the present year, there were in commission 530 vessels of all classes and descriptions, armed with 3000 guns and manned by 51,000 men, the number of vessels at present in commission is 117, with 670 guns and 12,128 men. By the prompt reduction of the naval forces, the expenses of the Government have been largely diminished, and a number of vessels purchased for naval purposes from the merchant marine have been restored to the peaceful pursuits of commerce. Since the suppression of active hostilities our foreign squadrons have been re-established, and vessels much more efficient than those employed upon similar service previous to the rebellion. The suggestion for the enlargement of the navy yards, especially for the establishment of one in New York water for iron-clad vessels, is deserving of consideration, as is also the recommendation for a different location and more ample grounds for the naval academy.

In the report of the Secretary of War a general summary is given of the military campaigns of 1864 and 1865 ending in the suppression of resistance to the National authority in the insurgent States. The operations of the General Administration Bureau of the War Department during the past year are detailed, and an estimate is made of the appropriations that will be required for military purposes in the fiscal year, commencing the 30th day of June, 1866. The National military force on the first of May, 1865, numbered 1,000,500 men. It is proposed to reduce the military establishment to a peace footing, comprising 50,000 troops of all arms, organized as to admit of an enlargement by filling up the ranks to 81,500 of the aforementioned. The country should require the adoption of the system which has proved its efficiency on the battle fields, on the other hand, beyond the exigencies of any probable emergency. The measure is really a measure of economy, as well as security. Large standing armies, with extensive military establishments, are dangerous to free institutions, and are to be avoided, under ordinary circumstances, as a rule of general policy. But the lesson taught us by the history of the past four years, in connection with the history of other countries, proves conclusively that large standing armies, and military establishments on a corresponding scale, are necessary to the safety of free institutions. The expenditures during the present year are estimated at $283,000,000, and the receipts from taxation, under existing laws, at $558,000,000, leaving a surplus revenue of $275,000,000. It is recommended that $100,000,000 of this amount be applied to the payment of the principal of the public debt, and the remainder to the reduction and ultimate extinguishment of taxation. The attention of Congress is directed to the present condition of the navy yards and other public establishments, and the necessity of their improvement is urged. The whole subject of our relations with the Indian tribes has been submitted to a careful examination, and such changes suggested as experience seemed to dictate. Our treaties with the various tribes have been faithfully observed on our part, and in most instances the same fidelity has been manifested by the Indians. In those cases where they have violated their engagements, such violations have been promptly punished. Wherever tribes or portions of tribes have manifested a spirit of hostility, or have murdered our citizens, they have been punished with severity sufficient to secure future obedience to the laws, and to inspire a just regard for the rights of person and property. Our relations with the Indian tribes are now in a favorable condition, and it is hoped that the policy now adopted, if continued in the future, will secure permanent peace with the various tribes.

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ANDREW JOHNSON.

Louisiana Legislature.

Eleventh Day—December 6, 1865.

Senate—The Senate was called to order pursuant to adjournment, the Lieutenant Governor in the chair and a quorum present. Prayer by the Rev. Father Hamilton.

The journal was read and approved.

The Senate Rules Committee announced that he could be at no time of the session, report the Rules and Joint Rules of the House Reduced to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Talbot introduced a joint resolution to repeal the corporate existence of the Levee Commissioners of the Seventeenth District, and to transfer the property of the Board to the Police Jury of the parish of Jefferson, which was on account of $4 taxes levied and then the proceedings of the Board were published in a newspaper in the district of the parish of Jefferson, and the money so collected by the Levee Commissioners ordered to be refunded to the Levee Commissioners.

Mr. Talbot introduced a bill to amend the act of the Legislature of 1865, relative to the Levee Commissioners.

Mr. Hood introduced a bill to add to the emoluments already provided by law, of property, for the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Dreux introduced a joint resolution to amend the constitution of the State, relative to the election of Governor and Lieutenant Governor